

RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.111
Application Number: 10/718,741

Our Ref: CQ10110
Art Unit: 2878

from the support or record medium in response to incident radiation from the radiation beam generator. The claim further specifies that the emitted radiation has a different wavelength from the incident radiation.

Umemoto describes an imaging recording and reading system in which an image is recorded in an image recording section 10 while the image is read out in an image read-out section 20. See Fig. 1 and col. 8, lines 18-22. Umemoto indicates that a radiation beam impinging upon the record medium 2 in the image recording section 10 will be modulated with image information defined by the object 3. See col. 8, lines 51-54. In contrast, however, the radiation beam generated in the image read-out section 20 by the laser 23 is not modulated prior to impinging upon the record medium. Rather, Umemoto discloses that “a semiconductor laser 23 is used in the image read-out section 20 in order to produce a laser beam 21 having a wavelength of 780 nm.” See col. 9, lines 1-18 and Fig. 1.

The Office Action states that Umemoto’s semiconductor laser 23 in the read-out section 20 corresponds to the radiation beam generator recited in claim 1. The Office Action also states that the laser beam 21 produced by laser 23 corresponds to the radiation beam modulated with image data recited in claim 1. Since Umemoto does not teach or suggest modulating laser beam 21 with image data, it is respectfully submitted that Umemoto does not anticipate claim 1.

Claim 1 also specifies that the detection system monitors for a change in intensity of the detected radiation indicative of the passage of the record medium edge. The image read-out section 20 of Umemoto is not concerned with detecting the edge of a record medium. Rather, the image read-out section 20 is simply used to obtain the image itself. Accordingly, since

RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.111
Application Number: 10/718,741

Our Ref: CQ10110
Art Unit: 2878

Umemoto neither teaches nor suggest this limitation of claim 1, it is submitted that Umemoto does not anticipate claim 1 for this reason as well.

It is respectfully submitted that Umemoto does not anticipate claim 12 for at least the same reasons discussed above.

Claims 2-3 and 13 rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being obvious in view of Umemoto in view of Misawa et al. (US 4,861,086, hereinafter "Misawa"). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection since these claims are allowable for at least the same reasons as claims 1 and 12, as discussed above.

Further, with respect to claim 2, the Office Action states that Misawa discloses, in Fig. 4B and in col. 9, major modes of operation for operating a laser beam. Misawa describes in col. 9 one such mode of detecting a leading edge of a light-sensitive sheet medium by controlling the radiation power output of a laser beam generator 10 which is significantly less than the maximum power output level available to the laser beam generator 10. See col. 9, lines 28-40. As shown in Fig. 4B, in another mode of operation the laser beam generator operates at its maximum power output level when recording an image on the light-sensitive sheet medium. See col. 9, lines 4-8 and 35-40.

The Examiner asserts that it would have been obvious to modify Umemoto to include the major modes of operation disclosed by Misawa. However, it is respectfully submitted that a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention would not consider these references together since Misawa utilizes the same laser beam for detecting the edge and imparting the image information whereas Umemoto clearly requires separation of the function of imparting image information from other functions. Indeed, Misawa is an example of the prior art

RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.111
Application Number: 10/718,741

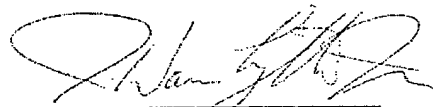
Our Ref: CQ10110
Art Unit: 2878

described in the introduction to the patent application and uses absorption, reflection or both to detect an edge.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



J. Warren Lytle, Jr.
Registration No. 39,283

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE

23373

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: February 22, 2006